AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 16, which starts "Here, the shaded represented armature 3" with the following amended paragraph:

> Here, the shaded represented armature 3 has in the cross-section the form of a trapezoid with not parallel side faces. Therefore, the centre 2b of the lower armature portion lies closer to the pivoting axis 4 than the centre 3a of the upper armature portion. The poles of the electromagnets are arranged in such a way, that they are arranged opposite to the armature portions with the centres 3a and 3b. From this results, that the transmission ratio i_1 of the electromagnet 1 is larger than the transmission ratio i_2 of the electromagnet 2. Alternatively, the armature can also have the form of a rhombus or of a polygon.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 20, which starts "In FIG. 2," with the following amended paragraph:

> In FIG. 2, similar as in FIG. 1, two electromagnets 11, 11a, 11b and 12, 12a and 12b are provided, to which a pivotably supported armature [[12]] 13 is opposed, which acts onto a valve stem 20. Here, the lever 18 is supported in rolling member bearings 15. In this case, the torsion bar 16 produces the total spring forces. Here, it is also valid, that is $i_1 > i_2$.

Please replace the ABSTRACT with the following amended ABSTRACT, a clean copy of which is submitted herewith on a separate page, to comply with M.P.E.P. §608.01(b):

The invention relates to an electromagnetic actuator which actuates a gas exchange valve. ~~Said~~ The actuator comprises two electromagnets and an armature which is actuated by the ~~latter~~ second of the two electromagnets and acts upon the gas exchange valve[[.]] ~~and~~ The actuator further comprises a spring mechanism that provides two spring forces which act in opposing directions upon the armature. The electromagnets have a transformation ratio $i = l_1/l_2$ of less than 1. The armature

and the poles of the electromagnets which are assigned thereto are ~~configures~~ configured in such a way that the transformation ratio i_1 of the contact magnet is greater than the transformation ratio i_2 of the break magnet.